

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In repatent application of **EGON BRAUNING**

U.S. Serial No.: 09/982,689 Confirmation No.: 8634

Filed: October 18, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Group Art Unit: 3636

Examiner: Joseph F. Edell

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicant and his attorney respectfully request that the following patents and patent publications, copies of which are attached hereto, be made of record in the official United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the above-identified application. The citation of these patents and patent publications should not be RECEIVED POR ANG 2 0 2003 GROUP 3600 construed as an admission that they constitute prior art with respect to the present application.

U.S. Patents

2,815,801 3.751,109

Foreign Patent Publications

International Patent Publication No. WO 00/21416 A European Patent Publication No. EP 1 101 426 A

Applicant's attorney notes that each of the above-listed patents and patent publications was cited in a European Search Report issued in connection with applicant's corresponding application (i.e., EP01810968).

The attached copy of the European Search Report provides an indication as to the relevance of the references listed therein. More particularly, the European Search Report assigns a category "A" designation (i.e., a document defining the technological background) to all of the references cited. It also assigns a category "P" designation (i.e., an intermediate document) to European Patent Publication No. 1 101 426 A. In such circumstances, additional comments concerning the relevance of the foregoing patents and patent publications are considered unnecessary. In addition, applicant's attorney notes that an English-language translation of International Patent Publication No. WO 00/21416 A is not presently available. However, applicant will provide the United States Patent and Trademark Office with an appropriate English-language translation upon the Examiner's request for same.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and patent publications listed above, applicant's attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. The completed Form is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

Although this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after mailing of a first Office Action on the merits and before a final Office Action, each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. In the foregoing circumstances, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c)(1) and (e)(1), it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the submission of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any such fees are due, including extension and petition fees, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 501402.

Respectfully Submitted,

MCCARTER & ENGLISH

By: Sai

Sanjiv M. Chokshi Reg. No. 44,080

Sonju Chalmh-

Four Gateway Center 100 Mulberry Street P.O. Box 652 Newark, NJ 07101-0652 (973)622-4444 SMC/sd

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